Cancellation of trains due to fog

1441. SHRI C. P. THIRUNAVUKKARASU: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of trains cancelled during January and February this year due to fog; and

(b) the action taken by Government to avoid cancellation of trains due to fog?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) 898 trains were cancelled during January and February this year due to fog.

(b) Efforts are made not to resort to cancellation of trains during foggy conditions. The trains were cancelled only in dense fog conditions with extremely poor visibility when it was not possible to run them to time, and to avoid complete dislocation of services and of rake links.

Electrification and doubling of Shikohabad Farukhabad rail line

†1442. SHRI MUNAVVAR HASAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any scheme for electrification and doubling of the rail tracks from Shikohabad to Farukhabad;

(b) if so, the details thereof and by when the same is likely to be implemented; and

(c) if not, the justification thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) to (c) Due to constraint of resources and relative priority for electrification of other high density routes, there is, at present, no proposal to electrify this section.

So far as the doubling is concerned, the traffic on the above section has not yet reached the level to justify its doubling.

General coaches to AP Express train

1443. DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways propose to increase the general coaches to Andhra Express and other Andhra Pradesh bound trains; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) and (b) Augmentation of trains including with general class coaches is an ongoing process on the Railways depending upon traffic pattern, operational feasibility and availability of resources. However, increasing general class coaches in 2723/2724 Andhra Pradesh Express is not feasible as the train is running with maximum permissible load.

Rail transportation of WCL in Gujarat

1444. SHRI BACHANI LEKHRAJ: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Gujarat Government has requested for transportation of 50,000 Meters of WCL to Ukai TPS;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken/proposed to be taken by Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Request was received from Gujarat Electricity Board for transportation of 50,000 tonnes of coal from Western Coalfield Ltd. (WCL). This was not accepted by Railways due to adverse financial implications and wastage of infrastructure created by Railways for transportation of coal from the traditional source of coal supply *i.e.* South Eastern Coalfield Limited to the Power Stations of Gujarat Electricity Board including Ukai. Railways have no problem in moving coal from Korea-Rewa or Korba field of South Eastern Coalfield Limited to Ukai TPS.

Computerised rail reservation at Wankaner

1445. SHRIMATI SAVITA SHARDA:
SHRI LALITBHAI MEHTA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a demand has been pending with the Ministry of Railways to computerize reservation facility at Wankaner Junction; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) and (b) The demand for setting up of a computerised reservation centre at Wankaner Jn. was raised in the meeting of the Informal Consultative Committee held on 31-7-2001.